

REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits.

As indicated above, filed concurrently herewith is a Divisional Application of Application Serial No. 09/286,788 ("the parent application") for which a Notice of Allowance was issued on March 23, 2004 allowing elected claims 1-4 and 15, as the claims had been subjected to a restriction requirement during prosecution. Non-elected claims 5, 7-14, 19 and 25 were canceled by Examiner's Amendment as state in ¶2 of the Detailed Action which accompanied the Notice of Allowance. This Divisional Application is drawn to those canceled, non-elected claims from the parent application, i.e., claims 5, 7-14, 19 and 25.

Claims 5, 7-14, 19 and 25 are pending in this Divisional Application. Claims 5, 11, 19 and 25 are independent. Claims 5, 8-14, 19 and 25 are herein amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments. The pending claims have been amended as shown to incorporate amendments presented during the prosecution of the parent application in overcoming rejections of these claims in view of cited references including U.S. Patent Nos. 6,047,006 to Brakefield et al., 5,963,620 to Frankel et al., 5,964,319 to Kobayashi, 5,555,294 to Abe and 5,495,485 to Hughes-Hartogs. Additionally, claims 5 and 19 have been further amended for clarity in response to the Examiner's indication that the claim language in these claims is unclear.

Applicant believes that the application is hereby in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

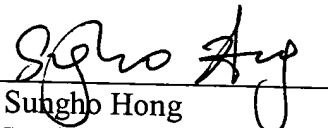
No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4530US1). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: April 16, 2004

By: _____


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